Remote Video Surveillance of Environmental Crimes

Darrell Hawkins

California Air Resources Board



Why Use Remote Video Surveillance?

- Covert We can catch criminals in the act.
- Improves investigator safety
- Recorded evidence is difficult to deny
- Cost effective

Our Clients

- Waste Management Board (CIWMB)
- Cal/EPA enforcement task forces
 - (Toxics, Water Resources, Water Quality, Pesticides, Waste, Environmental Health Hazards, Air Resources)
- Local investigators
 - air districts, hazmat,
 - police, health, code enforcement
- Local district attorneys



Activities where Video Surveillance is Valuable

- Hazardous waste dumping
- Air emission complaints
- Water Pollution
- Illegal vehicle fuels
- Smog Check fraud
- Illegal operations
 - asbestos, incineration

Freon Releases



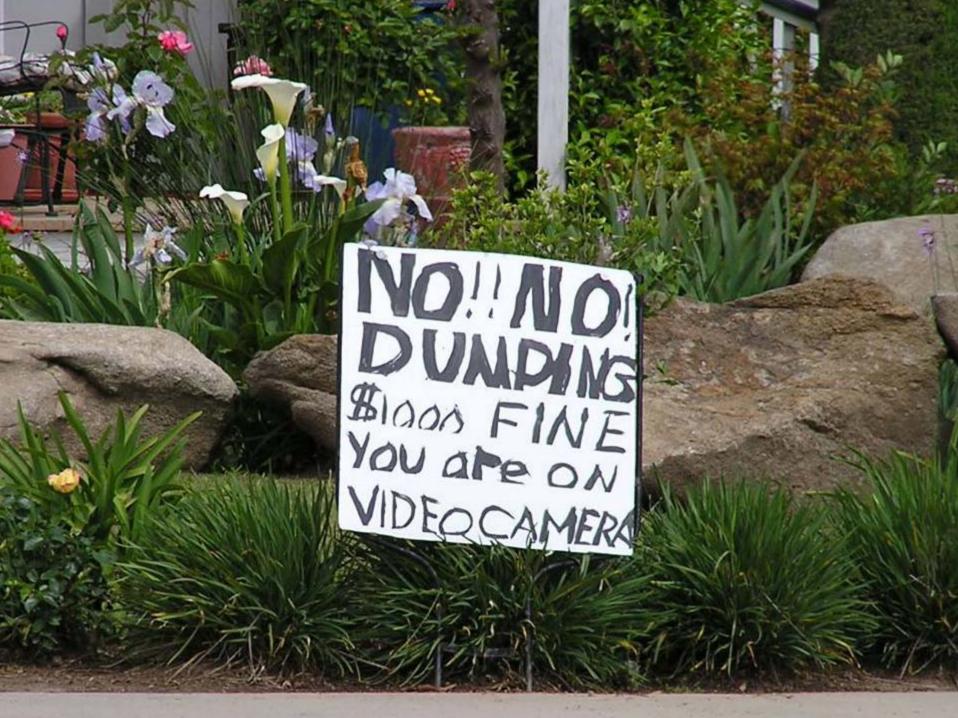


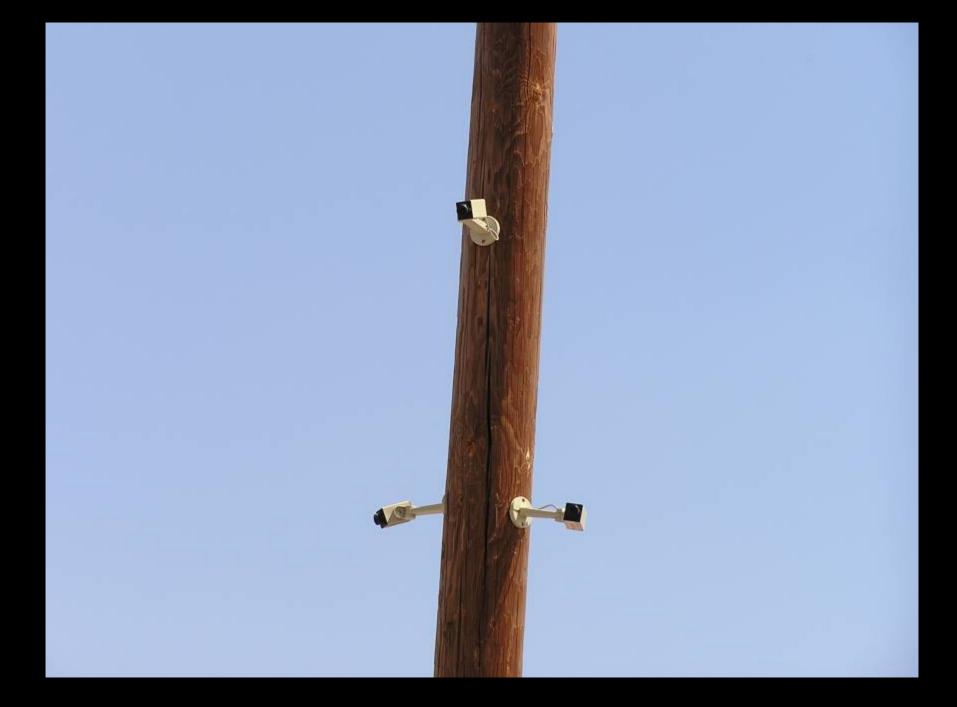
Amendment IV

 The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized.

What Are Our Objectives?

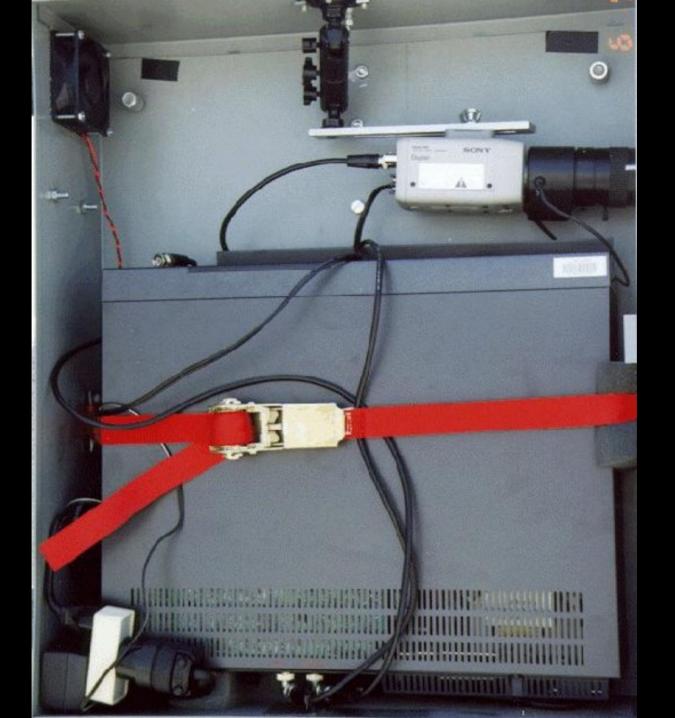
- Criminal prosecution
- Direct evidence
- Indirect or circumstantial evidence
- Probable cause
 - enough evidence to obtain a warrant





Types of Equipment

- Camera + Time Lapse VCR
- VCRs vs DVRs
- Motion Detection
- Lenses (6mm to 75 mm is normal, up to 280mm available)
- Remote controlled pan/tilt zoom



Types of Installations

- Enclosures vary with the location
- Power sources (120v or battery)
- City or Rural
- Day or Night





Challenges for Tire Dumping

- Location changes
- Culprits are completely unknown
- Dumping may occur at night



05-12-2005 THU 01:44:02

Target Evidence

- Witness the dumping activity
- License plate
- Business name on vehicle
- Face



How Much Does It Cost?

- Investigative costs are recovered from the criminal at the time of settlement or prosecution
- No up front expenses for your agency



Northern California
Darrell Hawkins
916-445-0286
dhawkins@arb.ca.gov

Southern California
Alex Barber
626-350-6414
abarber@arb.ca.gov



